BEFORE THE ARIZONA BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC EXAMINERS IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY

IN THE MATTER OF:

DAVID IZENBERG, D.O. Holder of License No. 2253

For the practice of osteopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

Case No. DO-16-0133A

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER FOR A DECREE OF CENSURE AND PROBATION

On June 23, 2016, the Arizona of Osteopathic Examiners in Medicine and Surgery ("Board") received a complaint from patient J.P.'s parents regarding care provided to him by David Izenberg, D.O. ("Respondent"). On May 22, 2017, the Board and Respondent entered into an Interim Consent Agreement and Order for Practice Restriction and Evaluation ("Interim Order") the terms of which prohibited Respondent from prescribing Schedule 2, 3, 4, and 5 medications and recommending medical marijuana to patients and also required Respondent to undergo a physician practice assessment.

On August 11, 2018, the Board held an Investigative Hearing to address the allegations in the complaint and the results of the physician practice assessment. Respondent appeared and was represented by counsel.

After hearing testimony from the Respondent and considering the documents and evidence submitted, the Board voted to enter the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order for Decree of Censure and Probation:

JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENTS

- 1. The Board is empowered, pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1800 *et seq.*, to regulate the practice of osteopathic medicine in the State of Arizona, and the conduct of the persons licensed, registered, or permitted to practice osteopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 2. Respondent is the holder of License No. 2253 issued by the Board for the practice of osteopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On June 23, 2016, the Board received a complaint from patient J.P.'s parents regarding care provided to him by Respondent.
- 2. The complainants alleged J.P. was under Respondent's care for several years, since 2007, and throughout his care they felt Respondent had overprescribed medications to their son. They also felt he failed to recognize their son was a drug addict and his continued prescribing enabled their son's habit.
- 3. A review of the medical records and treatment indicate that Respondent did prescribe a number of controlled substances to J.P. There were significant concerns about Respondent's treatment, lack of examination and his general knowledge base. A chart review was completed and it raised a concern of a pattern regarding inappropriate prescribing by Respondent.
- 4. The Board held an Investigative Hearing on this matter on May 6, 2017. Respondent appeared personally and with counsel.

- 5. The Board had the following concerns based upon the evidence that Respondent:
 - a. Prescribed both opioids and benzodiazepines concurrently;
 - b. Prescribed methadone in conjunction with benzodiazepines and opioids;
 - c. Prescribed multiple benzodiazepines to the same patient;
 - d. Prescribed drugs without understanding the side-effects;
 - e. Continued to prescribe opioids to patients who had a past history of substance abuse;
 - f. Failed to recognize drug seeking behavior in some of his patients, including patient J.P;
 - g. Continued to prescribe and over-prescribe controlled substances;
 - h. Prescribed Adderall to a patient without doing a work- up to determine if the patient had ADHD;
 - Failed to monitor persons to whom the drugs were being prescribed to guard against overprescribing;
 - j. Failed to obtain urine drug screens from patients taking controlled substances on a consistent basis;
 - k. Failed to document prescriptions for controlled substances;
 - Failed to examine the patient to determine the condition that he felt necessitated the prescribing of the medications;
 - m. Failed to document physical examination results;

- n. Failed to document the reason(s) for the prescription(s);
- o. Failed to make appropriate pain management and psychiatric referrals.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pursuant to A.R.S. §32-1800, et seq. the Board has subject matter and personal jurisdiction in this matter.
- 2. The conduct and circumstances described in paragraphs 1 through 6 above, constitute unprofessional conduct as defined in the following paragraphs of A.R.S. §32-1854:
- (6) Engaging in the practice of medicine in a manner that harms or may harm a patient or that the Board determines falls below the community standard.
- (21) Failing or refusing to establish and maintain adequate records on a patient as follows:
- (a) If the patent is an adult, for at least six years after the last date the licensee provided the patient with medical or health care services.
- (36) Prescribing or dispensing controlled substances or prescription-only medications without establishing and maintaining adequate patient records.
- (38) Any conduct or practice that endangers a patient's or the public's health or may reasonably be expected to do so.
- (48) Prescribing, dispensing, or furnishing a prescription medication or a prescription-only device to a person if the licensee has not conducted a physical or mental

health status examination of that person or has not previously established a physicianpatient relationship.

ORDER

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Board,

- 1. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent is issued a DECREE OF CENSURE;
- 2. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the practice restriction imposed in the Interim Order prohibiting Respondent from prescribing Schedule 2, 3, 4, and 5 medications and recommending medical marijuana to patient is lifted;
- 3. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent's license number 2253 is placed on PROBATION for a minimum period of five (5) years from the effective date of this Order. The effective date of this Order is thirty-five (35) days from the date this Order is signed by the Board's Executive Director. At the conclusion of five years, Respondent must petition the Board for termination of his probation and release from all terms and conditions of the probation. If the Board determines that Respondent has not complied with all the requirements of this Order the Board, in its sole discretion, may either: (a) continue the probation or (b) institute proceedings for noncompliance with this Order, which may result in suspension, revocation, or other disciplinary and/or remedial action.
- 4. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that during the period of probation, on a weekly basis, Respondent shall submit to the Board's Medical Consultant a report from

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the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program ("CSPMP") showing all prescriptions for controlled substances issued by Respondent and filled by patients. Respondent shall submit the CSPMP report in a secure digital format to ensure that the confidentiality of the information is maintained.

- 5. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that for the first six months of the probationary period, Respondent shall engage the services of a Board-approved practice monitor who will review Respondent's patient charts to determine if Respondent's prescribing practices and recordkeeping are within the standard of care. Respondent shall ensure that the practice monitor submits reports to the Board on a monthly basis, with the first report due on or before September 30, 2018.
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that following the expiration of the sixth 6. month period during which the practice monitor is required, Respondent shall cooperate with Board staff and provide records for chart reviews during the remainder of the period of probation. Chart reviews shall be conducted at a frequency determined by the Board's Executive Director and Medical Consultant.
- 7. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that during the period of probation, Respondent shall notify the Board's Executive Director, in writing, of all patients to whom he provides or issues a written certification for medical marijuana as defined in A.R.S. §36-2801 (18).
- 8. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within sixty days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall complete ten hours of continuing medical education in the area of recordkeeping. Within fourteen days of completing the continuing education,

Respondent shall provide the certificate(s) of completion to the Board's Executive Director.

- 9. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,000.00 dollars within sixty days of the effective date of this Order.
- 10. <u>Costs:</u> Respondent shall bear all costs incurred regarding compliance with this Order.
- 11. <u>Obey All Laws:</u> Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, and all rules governing the practice of medicine in the State of Arizona.
- Ceasing Practice in the State of Arizona: In the event that Respondent ceases to practice medicine in the State of Arizona, by moving out of state, failing to renew his license, or maintaining an Arizona license but ceasing to practice clinical medicine or administrative medicine requiring licensure, Respondent shall notify the Board that he has ceased practicing in Arizona, in writing, within 10 days of ceasing to practice. In its sole discretion, the Board may stay the terms of this Order until such time as the Respondent resumes the practice of medicine in Arizona, or may take other action to resolve the findings of fact and conclusions of law contained in this Order.
- 13. **Failure to Comply/Violation**: Respondent's failure to comply with the requirements of this Order shall constitute an allegation of unprofessional conduct as defined at A.R.S. § 32-1854(25) and proven violations may be grounds for further disciplinary action (e.g., suspension or revocation of license).

ISSUED THIS 23rd DAY OF OCTOBER, 2018.

ARIZONA BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC EXAMINERS IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY

seal

By: John Brak, Executive Director

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO REQUEST REVIEW OR REHEARING

Respondent may request a rehearing or review of this matter pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.09. The motion for rehearing or review must be filed with the Arizona Board of Osteopathic Examiners within thirty (30) days. If a party files a motion for review or rehearing, that motion must be based on at least one of the eight grounds for review or rehearing that are allowed under A.A.C. R4-22-108(D). Failure to file a motion for rehearing or review within 30 days has the effect of prohibiting judicial review of the Board's decision. Service of this order is effective five (5) days after date of mailing. A.R.S. § 41-1092.09(C). If a motion for rehearing or review is not filed, the Board's Order becomes effective thirty-five (35) days after it is mailed to Respondent.

- Original "Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order for Decree of Censure and Probation" filed this _23rd____ day of October, 2018 with:
- 22 | Arizona Board of Osteopathic Examiners
- In Medicine and Surgery
 - 1740 W. Adams, Ste. 2410
- 24 | Phoenix AZ 85007

Copy of the "Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order for Decree of Censure and Probation" sent by certified mail, return receipt requested,

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1	this _23rd day of October, 2018 to:
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3	Stephen Myers Mitchell Stein Carey & Chapman, P.C.
4	One Renaissance Square
5	2 North Central Avenue, Suite 1450 Phoenix, AZ 85004
6	Attorneys for Respondent
7	Copies of this "Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order for Decree of Censure
8	and Probation " filed/sent this _23rd day of October, 2018 to:
9	Jeanne Galvin, AAG
10	Office of the Attorney General SGD/LES 2005 N. Central Ave.
11	Phoenix AZ 85004
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13	By:
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